

Application No.: 10/765,940
Reply dated December 21, 2006
to Office Action of September 21, 2006
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Docket No.: 0425-1109P

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4-15 are pending in the application. Claim 3 has been canceled. Claims 4 and 8-14 have been withdrawn. New claim 15 has been added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-3 and 5-7 are pending in the application. Applicants, however, respectfully submit that although claims 4 and 8-14 are directed to the non-elected invention, these claims have been merely withdrawn from consideration and are still pending in the application.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure has been objected to because of some informalities.

The abstract of the disclosure has been amended to overcome this objection.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this objection.

Further, minor changes have been made to the specification to place it in better form for U.S. practice.

Substitute Specification

The above-noted specification changes are set forth in the attached Substitute Specification. The Substitute Specification does not contain new matter.

A Comparison Specification showing the matter being added to and deleted from the original specification is also submitted herewith.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to approve the Substitute Specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because of some informalities.

Claim 3 has been canceled.

Other rejected claims have been amended to overcome this rejection.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 5, 6, and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Duguet (USP 6,408,758). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Duguet discloses, in Fig. 1, a header having a body 3 and a glass tube 10, a circuit 18 (corresponds to the “heat generating body” of the present invention according to the Examiner), and a pair of electrodes 12, 13 penetrating the header.

In Duguet, however, the electrodes 12, 13 are rods, each having rounded ends, and do not have “a flange portion.” Accordingly, Duguet fails to disclose or suggest the “electroconductive pin” as recited in claim 1.

Claims 5-7, variously dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2 and 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duguet and further in view of Narumi (USP 6,354,217). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 2, dependent on claim 1, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 1.

Claim 3 has been canceled.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

New Claim

Claim 15, dependent on claim 5, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 5.

A favorable determination by the Examiner and allowance of this claim is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and objections, and allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi (#40,417) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: December 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

for 
By *TCB* (reg. # 40.417)
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Attachments: Substitute Specification - 21 pages
Comparison Specification - 22 pages